

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

YOSHII et al

Atty. Ref.: 1858-25

Serial No. Unknown

Group: #5A

Filed: January 29, 2001

Examiner: S.A.

For: **SELF-CROSS-LINKING ALKYL CELLULOSE
DERIVATIVE, PRODUCTION PROCESS THEREFOR,
AND USE THEREOF**

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January 29, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 7, lines 2 and 3, delete "any one of claims 1 through 6" and insert
-- claim 1 --.

Claim 8, lines 2 and 3, delete "any one of claims 1 through 7" and insert
-- claim 1 --.

Claim 11, line 2, delete "any one of claims 8 through 10" and insert -- claim 8 --.

Claim 12, line 2, delete "9, or 11,".

Claim 13, line 4, delete "any one of claims 8 through 11" and insert -- claim 8 --.